

Baseball Lamp

Written By: Team Recycling Et Cetera



- Liquid super glue (1)
- Scissors (1)
- Tape (1)
- Tape measure (1)
- Wire stripper/crimper (1)
- bandsaw or hacksaw (1)
- fine metal file (1)
- hand-held electric drill (1)

PARTS:

- baseball helmet (1)
- aluminum baseball bat (1)
- wooden lamp (1)
- <u>150-degree PVC connector (1)</u>
- flat head screws (2)
- Nuts (2)
- Hollow steel tube (1)
- Light bulb (1)

SUMMARY

Ever have an old bat and helmet lying around? Well, now it is time to use that old kid's stuff to make a nice house lamp. This can be used in a man cave, child's room, or just about anywhere else in the house. While you can always buy at a lamp at the store to save time, this guide will provide you with the tools to build a one-of-a-kind item.

Step 1 — Baseball Lamp





- Take the wooden lamp and cut the plug from the wire. Leave enough wire to reattach the plug after the lamp is assembled.
- You can discard the vertical wooden support and the inner metal cylinder.
- This should leave you with a round wooden base and the lamp socket.



- In the butt of the batt, drill a 5/8" hole. This hole will be used for support of the structure.
- Locate a 5/8" hollow steel or PVC tube to be used in step 3.



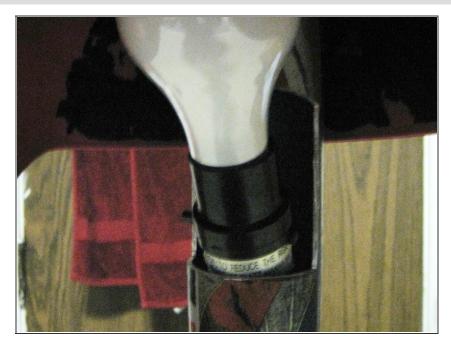
- Cut the 5/8" diameter tube to roughly 12" long. This measurement does not need to be exact as it will be inside the bat and not visible.
- Drill a hole in the wooden base just slightly under 5/8" for the rod to fit into. The rod will be pressed into the hole in the base and housed inside the bat to create a vertical support.



- Place the previous parts aside for a little while and we will focus on the helmet now.
- Remove the foam in the inside of the helmet as best you can. This can be done using a knife. Not all of it needs to be removed.
- The foam is removed to make the lamp safer as it could pose a fire hazard otherwise.



 Drill two 1/8" holes in the back of the helmet as shown. These two holes will be used to attach the helmet to the bat as a light shade.



- Now let's finish up the work on the bat.
- In the wide part of the bat, cut a rectangular notch into the side using a metal bandsaw or hacksaw. This will be where the light socket goes in the end.
 - The dimensions of the cut will depend on the light socket used.
 My notch was cut to be 2" deep and the width of the bat.
 - Locate this notch about 2" below the top of the bat. The light will be housed in the shade.

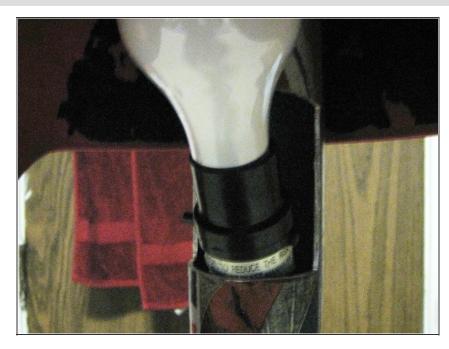




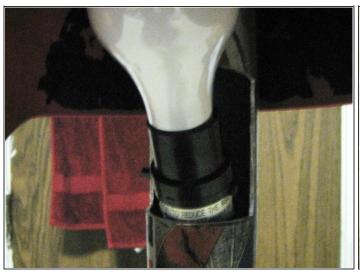
- Having cut the notch in the front side of the bat, you can now figure out placement of the helmet.
- Take your helmet which has the two holes drilled in the back. Line up where you wish to have the "shade" and mark the two holes in the helmet onto the bat.
 - On my lamp, the top hole is about half an inch from the top of the bat.
- Drill holes through the bat at the locations you marked. Place the two screws through the holes and tighten them down using the nuts.
 - Finger-tight is fine. If you tighten them too much the helmet will crack.



You can now mount the bat on the base.



- The physical structure is done and now it is time for the light fixture itself.
- Run the wire through the 150degree PVC pipe connector. This will help angle the bulb into the helmet shade.
- Use liquid super glue to bond the PVC connector and light socket.
- This will need to sit for a couple of hours to allow the glue to dry. My glue had dried in about 3 hours.

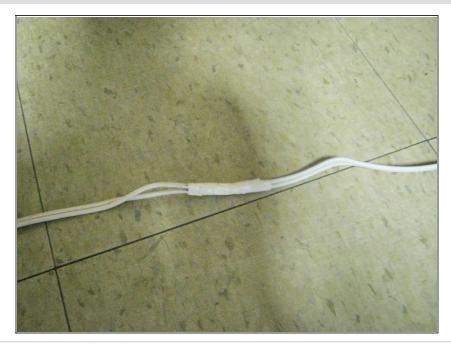




- String the wire through the bat and hollow steel tube.
- Place the light fixture where you wish it to be, pointing out of the notch.
- Tape the fixture in place and use super glue to fully secure it.
- This will also take about 3 hours and the tape should be left on until the glue is dry.



- As the glue is drying the wooden base and the butt of the bat can also be glued together.
- Allow everything to dry before handling the lamp further.



- The final touches are added here!
- Take the cut ends of the wire, strip the plastic insulation off and discard it.
- Splice the wires together, matching the grooved and nongrooved insulation.
- Use electrical tape to cover the exposed wire.



- Screw in a light bulb and plug your lamp in.
- Turn it on and there you go, a unique lamp to enjoy.

This document was last generated on 2012-12-19 08:34:32 PM.